**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A filter, comprising:

a tubular member;

a shaft extending through the tubular member;

an expansion frame mounted on the distal end of the shaft, the expansion frame expandable between a contracted condition and an expanded condition, the expansion frame including a flexible ring;

a flexible cantilever beam configured to slideably extend from a distal end of the shaft and bisects the expansion frame, and contacts the expansion frame at a distal end of the flexible cantilever beam, the flexible cantilever beam including a wire having a weakened region; and

a filter mesh attached to the expansion frame.

2. (Withdrawn) The filter of claim 1, wherein the flexible cantilever beam includes a flexible hinge.

3. (Withdrawn) The filter of claim 1, wherein the flexible cantilever beam includes a flexible spring.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The filter of claim 1, wherein the flexible cantilever beam comprises a nitinol tube of generally cylindrical shape.

6. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 1, wherein the flexible cantilever beam is constructed from a composite of materials.

7. (Previously Presented) The filter of claim 1, wherein the flexible cantilever beam is constructed of bare wire, plastic tube, and metal outer sheath.

8-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) A method for filtering blood, comprising:

providing a tubular member, a shaft extending through the tubular member, an expansion frame mounted on the distal end of the shaft, a flexible cantilever beam that slideably extends from a distal end of the shaft and bisects the expansion frame, and is bonded to the expansion frame at a distal end of the flexible cantilever beam, the flexible cantilever beam including a wire having a weakened region, and a filter mesh attached to the expansion frame;

inserting a cannula into a vessel;

inserting the tubular member into a port on the cannula;

advancing the filter mesh into the vessel;

deploying the filter mesh within the vessel; and

removing the filter mesh from the vessel.

19-32. (Canceled)